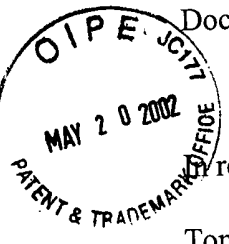


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PATENT

Docket No.: 50212-336

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Free Application of

Tomohiro ISHIHARA, et al.

Serial No.: 10/035,330

Group Art Unit: 1731

Filed: January 04, 2002

Examiner: not yet assigned

For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR DRAWING OPTICAL FIBER

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

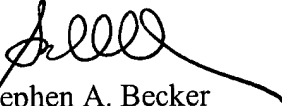
To ensure that these references are available to the Examiner we are providing copies.

Acknowledgement and consideration of these documents are respectfully requested.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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